

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAJ-01 IO-10 ACDA-05 OMB-01

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FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1328

AMEMBASSY BERLIN IMMEDIATE UNN

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

CINCEUR IMMEDIATE

CINCUSAFE IMMEDIATE

CINCUSAREUR IMMEDIATE

USELMLO IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 1683

CINCEUR FOR POLAD NAD OPS

CINCUSAFE FOR POLAD, OPS AND INCO

CINCUSAREUR FOR POLAD, OPS, AEAGC-COC & AEAGB-CI

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PBOR, FPOR, UR, WB

SUBJECT: SOVIET RESPONSE TO US PROTEST CONCERNING

AIR INCIDENTS IN CORRIDORS

REF: A) USBERLIN 1642 DTG 141830Z AUG 75

B) USBERLIN 1469 DTG 281405Z JUL 75

1. SUMMARY: SOVIET POLITICAL COUNSELLOR KHOTULEV GAVE

US (CHAIRMAN) POLAD ORAL REPLY AUGUST 18 TO ALLIED

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PROTESTS ABOUT AIR INCIDENTS IN SOUTH CORRIDOR ON

JULY 25 AND AUGUST 13 AND EXHIBITED CHARTS AND PHOTOGRAPHS WHICH PURPORTED TO SHOW THAT SOVIET AIRCRAFT NEVER ENDANGERED PAN AM FLIGHTS. HE REFUSED TO HAND OVER MATERIALS FOR DETAILED INSPECTION BY ALLIED TECHNICAL EXPERTS, HOWEVER, AND POLAD TOLD KHOTULEV THAT SOVIET REPLY WAS UNSATISFACTORY. ENDSUMMARY.

2. SOVIET POLITICAL COUNSELLOR KHOTULEV CALLED ON US (CHAIRMAN) POLAD AUGUST 18 TO RESPOND TO US PROTESTS CONCERNING INCIDENTS IN SOUTH CORRIDOR JULY 25 AND AUGUST 13. KHOTULEV MADE EXTREMELY DETAILED PRESENTATION (SEPTEL) AND PRESENTED PHOTOGRAPHS OF SOVIET RADAR SCREENS AND GRAPHS WHICH PURPORTED TO SHOW RELATIVE ALTITUDES OF SOVIET FIGHTERS AND PAN AM AIRCRAFT DURING COURSE OF CORRIDOR FLIGHTS IN SUPPORT OF SOVIET ALLEGATION THAT AIRCRAFT DID NOT ENDANGER PAN AM FLIGHTS. KHOTULEV CLAIMED JULY 25 INCIDENT TRACKED BY SOVIET RADAR STATION 4 KILOMETERS FROM INCIDENT AND THAT RADAR TRACK SHOWED AIRCRAFT NEVER APPROACHED CLOSER THAN 500-700 METERS ON HORIZONTAL PLANE OR 300 METERS VERTICALLY. CONCERNING INCIDENT OF AUGUST 13, KHOTULEV REFERRED TO PHOTOGRAPHS AND CHARTS TO SUPPORT HIS ARGUMENT THAT SOVIET AIRCRAFT CLIMBED THROUGH ALTITUDE OF PAN AM FLIGHT AT POINT 5-6 KILOMETERS BEHIND PAN AM AIRCRAFT AND AT NO TIME ENDANGERED ITS OPERATION. KHOTULEV REPEATEDLY STRESSED THAT SOVIET INVESTIGATION OF BOTH INCIDENTS HAD BEEN EXTREMELY THOROUGH AS DEMONSTRATED BY THE DOCUMENTATION AND FOR THAT REASON SOVIETS COULD NOT ACCEPT TWO US ORAL PROTESTS.

3. POLAD EXPRESSED APPRECIATION THAT SOVIETS HAD TAKEN TROUBLE TO PROVIDE SUCH A DETAILED EXPLANATION AND ASKED THAT PICTURES OF RADAR SCREENS AND GRAPHS DEPICTING FLIGHT PATTERNS OF US AND SOVIET AIRCRAFT BE TURNED OVER TO ALLIED TECHNICAL PERSONNEL FOR STUDY. KHOTULEV REFUSED ON GROUNDS THAT THEY WERE SOVIET MILITARY DOCUMENTS. HE DECLINED EVEN TO SHOW DOCUMENTS TO ALLIED REPRESENTATIVES IN BASC STATING THAT IN HIS OPINION INCIDENT WAS NOW CLOSED AND THAT IT WAS NOT NECESSARY TO INVOLVE OTHERS. POLAD EMPHASIZED THAT WHILE HE APPRECIATED KHOTULEV HAVING SHOWN HIM THE DOCUMENTS THEY REALLY CONFIDENTIAL

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PROVED NOTHING SINCE POLAD DID NOT HAVE COMPETENCE TO JUDGE TECHNICAL DATA OF THIS TYPE AND REITERATED NECESSITY FOR ALLIED TECHNICAL PERSONNEL TO STUDY THEM. KHOTULEV FINESSED REPLY BY COMPLAINING MILDLY THAT US HAD PROVIDED NO DOCUMENTATION TO SUPPORT ITS POSITION. POLAD THEN ADVISED KHOTULEV THAT HE WOULD TAKE NOTE OF PRESENTATION BUT THAT CIRCUMSTANCES, PARTICULARLY SINCE ALLIES NOT PERMITTED TO STUDY TECHNICAL DATA EXHIBITED BY SOVI\$?

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Message Attributes

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